

# 11 DAY PRIVATELY GUIDED NORTHERN NAMIBIA TOUR



Start & End in Windhoek

From ZAR 38,400 Per person sharing

## HIGHLIGHTS

*Guided tour of Windhoek and Katatura Township  
Kalahari Sundowner Game Drive & Cheetah Feeding  
Learn about the traditional Bushman Hunter Gatherer traditions  
Experience some of the world's highest sand dunes at Sossusvlei  
Charming seaside oasis of Swakopmund  
Discover desert fauna and flora on the Living Dunes Experience  
Scenic Damaraland  
Rock Engravings & Petroglyphs of Twyfelfontein  
Etosha Game Drives in 4x4 Landcruiser with pop-up roof  
Leopard Viewing at Okonjima Game Reserve*



## ACCOMMODATION

1 Night Olive Grove Guesthouse, Windhoek  
1 Night Bagatelle Kalahari Game Ranch, Mariental Region  
2 Nights Sossusvlei Lodge, Namib Desert  
2 Nights Hotel Zum Kaiser, Swakopmund  
1 Night Twyfelfontein Country Lodge, Damaraland  
2 Nights Etosha Village, near Anderson Gate  
1 Night Plains Camp, Okonjima Nature Reserve, Otjiwarongo



## COST OF ITINERARY 2021 & 2022

### High Season - 1 July to 31 October 2021

6 pax - ZAR 40,400 per person sharing  
4 pax - ZAR 46,900 per person sharing  
2 pax - ZAR 58,150 per person sharing  
Single Supplement - ZAR 8,700 per person

### Low Season - 1 January to 30 June 2022

6 pax - ZAR 38,400 per person sharing  
4 pax - ZAR 44,900 per person sharing  
2 pax - ZAR 56,200 per person sharing  
Single Supplement - ZAR 7,000 per person

### High Season - 1 July to 31 October 2022

6 pax - ZAR 41,000 per person sharing  
4 pax - ZAR 47,600 per person sharing  
2 pax - ZAR 58,850 per person sharing  
Single Supplement - ZAR 8,800 per person



## Includes

- \*Transport in 4x4 Toyota Landcruiser with pop-up roof (4 - 6 pax) or a Toyota Hilux (2 - 3 pax) - 10 days
- \*Services of a professional English speaking guide - 10 days
- \*10 night's accommodation as stated above
- \*Meals as indicated above
- \*National Park Entry fees
- \*Activities
  - Windhoek City & Katatura Township Tour
  - Cheetah Feeding & Sundowner Game Drive - Bagatelle Kalahari Game Ranch

- Bushman Walk - Bagatelle Kalahari Game Ranch
- Sossusvlei excursions
- Living Dunes Experience - Swakopmund
- Guided Rock Engravings & Petrified Forest Tours - Twyfelfontein
- Guided Game Drives - Etosha National Park
- Leopard Viewing activity - Okonjima
- \*Airport pick up on day 1
- \*Airport drop off on day 11

### Excludes

- \*Meals not indicated above
- \*Snacks & drinks
- \*Water
- \*Optional activities
- \*Items of a personal nature
- \*Tips/gratuities
- \*Travel insurance
- \*Trailer for luggage - vehicle has adequate space for soft bags but hard suitcases will require a trailer at extra cost

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## OVERVIEW

**Namibia** is a vast wilderness comprising diverse landscapes of desert and arid savanna where a geological history has produced fascinating formations. Survival in the desert is hugely challenging for all forms of life that have adapted to these harsh conditions, each in their own fascinating way. This is another world !

You will be intrigued by the diversity of life in a seemingly barren world and will relish the sunrises and sunsets in the most unusual landscapes on our planet, the warmth of the **Namibian** people and the tranquillity of vast open spaces - the result is an unforgettable experience.

**Namibia** is a photographer's dream, from the ochre colours of the wind-sculpted sand dunes and bare mountains that glow in the morning sun to the unusual landscapes, ethnic cultures and desert life.

Although most roads are gravel, they are well maintained, allowing tourism to move freely between the many weird and wonderful areas of the country. **Namibia's** infrastructure is reasonably good and much of the accommodation is highly original and aesthetically pleasing.

Your **Namibia Tour** is designed to give you a taste of this country's highlights including the red dunes, wildlife and **Bushman** culture of the **Kalahari**, magnificent dunes and vistas of the **Namib Desert** and **Sossusvlei**, charm of **Swakopmund**, landscapes and **Rock Art** of **Damaraland**, abundant wildlife of **Etosha National Park**, diverse peoples of **Namibia** and an array of wonderful lodges and guesthouses that blend into their natural surroundings.

Your stay in **Windhoek** will give you an impression of the variety of indigenous cultures that make up **Namibia's** small population and get a feel of the capital city which lies at an altitude of 1,650 metres above sea level.

**Bagatelle Kalahari Lodge** is located in the red sands of the **Kalahari**, a beautiful dry savanna region quite different from the **Namib Desert** in the west. Discover more about this area on a **Sundowner Game Drive**, witness **Cheetah** feeding and learn about the unique culture of the **Bushmen** on a morning walk.

**Sossusvlei Lodge** is beautifully located in **Sesriem**, the gateway to the **Namib Naukluft Park**, a massive conservation area in the **Namib Desert**. **Sossusvlei**, a normally dry lake caked with mud and set amongst some of the highest sand dunes in the world, lies 65 kms from **Sesriem** inside the **Namib Naukluft Park**.

**Swakopmund** is a quaint **German** town on the **Atlantic Ocean** with good restaurants, markets and shops, a breath of fresh air after the desert dust of the **Namib**. Here too you will find a cross section of **Namibia's** peoples. **Hotel Zum Kaiser** is centrally located overlooking the ocean, allowing you the freedom to explore on foot. Discover the secrets of the desert on the **Living Dunes Experience** and enjoy the many activities on offer.

**Damaraland** is **Namibia's** most scenic region and quite different to what you have seen so far. The wonderful ochre-coloured rocky and mountainous setting of **Twyfelfontein** is sometimes frequented by desert elephants and where thousands of rock engravings speak of previous cultures. **Twyfelfontein Country Lodge** is beautifully located amongst the rocks and boulders with a tranquil atmosphere. Explore the area and visit the **Rock Engravings** on a guided tour.

**Etosha Village** is located just outside the central part of **Etosha National Park**. Visit **Okaukuejo Camp's** waterhole that attracts an abundance of wildlife day and night and explore the Park on guided game drives. The terrain of the Park comprises dry savanna and a series of saline pans which include the massive **Etosha Pan**. There are many springs and waterholes throughout the Park that sustain animals' needs.

Your last night is spent at **Okonjima Lodge**, located in another beautiful part of **Namibia**. Here you will do a **Leopard Viewing** activity to learn more about one of **Africa's** big cats.

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## ITINERARY

## DAY 1

### *Standard Rooms - Bed & Breakfast*

On arrival at Hosea Kutako International Airport you will be met by your guide from **Namibia Experience** and transferred to **Olive Grove Guesthouse**.

After lunch you will have a 2 to 3 hour guided tour of **Windhoek and Katatura Township** to learn about the people and history of **Namibia**. Your guide will collect you at **09:00**. You will visit the **Christ Church**, the **Tintenpalast** (House of Parliament) and the **Kaiserstrasse** (main shopping street). You also have the option of visiting 3 museums. One is the **Railway Museum**, another is dedicated to the history of **Namibia** and the other is the **Minerals Museum**.

From the city centre your tour takes you to **Katatura Township**, an informal settlement housing more than two thirds of **Windhoek's** 325,000 people. The township is a vibrant and exciting place giving you an insight into some of the more traditional **Namibian** cultures. Your guide will show you the different styles of housing (from bungalows to shacks) and explain when, how and why the township started. He will also explain what different cultural groups live in **Katatura** and point them out when you see them on the side of the road.

### Accommodation

**Olive Grove Guesthouse** is located in the relaxed suburb of **Klein Windhoek**, close to the city centre and many excellent restaurants. Your **Standard Rooms** are furnished and fitted in a simplistic, but stylish fashion. Moroccan lights give the rooms a romantic feel with dimming switches to add to the ambience.

Room facilities include satellite TV, air conditioning, coffee / tea, mini bar and safe. Light lunches and dinner are served daily. There is a tranquil garden with a plunge pool and wifi is available.

**Included : Bed and Breakfast, Guided Tour of Windhoek & Katatura Township**

<http://olivegrove-namibia.com/>



## DAY 2

### *Savanna Chalets - Dinner, Bed & Breakfast*

## BAGATELLE KALAHARI GAME RANCH, MARIENTAL REGION

Departing **Windhoek** after breakfast, your **Namibian** journey takes you south into the **Kalahari Region** where the red sands, savanna scrub and wildlife contrast greatly from other areas of **Namibia**. Here too you will find **Bushman** people, the original inhabitants of **Southern Africa** whose knowledge of plants and animals has enabled them to survive in the most extreme of climates and habitats.

### Accommodation

**Bagatelle Kalahari Game Ranch** is located near the town of **Mariental** in the **Kalahari** region of **Namibia**. The terrain includes mixed tree and shrub savanna with red sand dunes and wildlife such as springbok, oryx, eland, kudu, giraffe, zebra, ostrich, meerkat

and cheetah. There is also a **Bushman** community living here affording you the opportunity to have a unique cultural experience and learn more about **Southern Africa's** original inhabitants.

The **Savannah Chalets** are located in the valley between the dunes overlooking the Main Lodge. Room features include ensuite bathroom, air conditioning, tea and coffee station and a bar fridge.

Lodge facilities include a swimming pool, upstairs restaurant, lounge, bar and a boma area where large fires are lit and barbecues can be enjoyed at night. Nearby is a waterhole that attracts game such as oryx, springbok, giraffe, ostrich, jackal, hare, mongoose and other smaller antelope.

**Included : Dinner, Bed & Breakfast, Cheetah Feeding & Sundowner Game Drive, Morning Bushman Walk**

<http://bagatelle-lodge.com/>

### Activities

On the afternoon of arrival you are booked on a **Cheetah Feeding & Sundowner Game Drive**. First you will have a safari through the reserve where a variety of game species can be seen such as giraffe, kudu, zebra, oryx, blue deer, eland and much more. Afterwards you will be in close contact with the fastest land animal on earth. During the cheetah feeding, you will learn everything about this fascinating predator and have the opportunity for great close-up photos. Experience the



breathtaking sunset on one of the highest dunes with refreshments and **Namibian** snacks, while enjoying the silence of the desert and an incredible view into the landscape.

The next morning you will take a walk with the indigenous people of the **Kalahari**. Walk with the **Bushmen (San)** to their village and learn about the ancient traditions and secrets of their ancestors. Get to know their survival skills and bring the past alive with them. In the village you will be shown how to collect water in ostrich eggs, how to set animal traps, which plants are suitable for medicine and how to make pearl and ostrich jewellery. This is a truly memorable cultural experience.

### Kalahari

The **Kalahari Region** forms part of the 2.5 million sq km **Kalahari Basin**, one of the largest coherent sand expanses worldwide. The central part of the **Kalahari Basin** consists of the **Kalahari Savanna** also known as the **Kalahari Desert** though it is arid savanna and not desert.

The **Kalahari** is one of the few places where you will find **Bushmen**, the true indigenous people of **Southern Africa**. For centuries they have lived undisturbed and in harmony with the environment. Their lifestyle was that of nomadic hunter-gatherer groups where leadership was undefined and tribal fights unknown. History has not always been kind to these peaceful people. As other **African** tribes moved down from the north and the early white settlers moved up from the **Cape**, they encountered the **Bushmen** who inhabited almost the whole of **Southern Africa**. Soon the **Bushmen** were displaced by the more dominant alien cultures in the region, so much so that today the **Bushmen** live only in the most harsh and remote parts of **Southern Africa**.

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## **DAYS 3 & 4**

### **Standard Rooms - Dinner, Bed & Breakfast**

Your journey today will take you into the awesome expanse of the **Namib Desert** along gravel roads travelling through open plains before reaching the dunes of the **Namib Naukluft Park**. You will arrive around midday and check into **Sossusvlei Lodge**, located in **Sesriem**, just outside the entrance to the **Namib Naukluft Park**.

### Accommodation

**Sossusvlei Lodge** is a luxurious eco-friendly retreat shaded by camel thorn trees that blends in perfectly with the spectacular desert surrounds.

Your luxury ensuite **Standard Units** under canvas are air conditioned and have beautiful desert vistas. The units have a patio, en-suite bathroom with shower and a spacious bedroom under canvas with adobe-style plaster walls.

Lodge facilities include a sparkling pool and a restaurant with an al fresco terrace that has magnificent views of the floodlit waterhole, attracting oryx, springbok, jackal, ground squirrel and hyena.

**Included : Dinner, Bed & Breakfast, Namib Naukluft Park Excursions**

<http://www.sossusvleilodge.com/>

### Activities

After checking into **Sossusvlei Lodge**, enjoy a relaxed lunch and a swim.

The next morning you will rise very early to enter the **Namib Naukluft Park** at sunrise. Your guide will have your packed breakfasts ready and after entering the Park, you will drive to **Dune 45** where you can trudge up the sandy slope to capture the awesome sight of the first rays of sun that light up the dune wonderland all around. Then drive another 15 kms to the car park from where you travel along very sandy tracks to visit the renowned areas of **Sossusvlei**, **Dead Vlei** and **Big Daddy Dune**. After enjoying walks through these areas you will drive back to **Sossusvlei Lodge** for lunch.

In the afternoon your guide will take you to **Sesriem Canyon** and another sundowner drive.

### Sossusvlei

The highlights of the **Namib Naukluft Park** include **Sossusvlei**, **Dead Vlei**, **Big Daddy Dune**, **Dune 45**, **Sesriem Canyon** and **Elim Dune**. These are located inside the **Park** except for **Sesriem Canyon** which is just outside the park about 3 kms from **Sossusvlei Lodge**.

**Namib Naukluft Park** is almost 50,000 sq. kms and one of the largest Parks in **Africa**. It stretches from near **Luderitz** in the south to **Swakopmund** in the north and includes well known areas such as **Sossusvlei**, **Namibrand Nature Reserve**, **Naukluft Mountains**, **Sandwich Harbour**, **Swakop River Valley** and **Kuiseb Canyon**.

**Sossusvlei**, a dry lake that sometimes fills with water after heavy rains in the interior, is located inside the **Namib Naukluft Park** and is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the **Namib Desert** as it is here that some of the highest sand dunes in the world are found, some of which are over 300 metres high. The first and last light of day blends with the ochre red and brown hues of the dunes to create a visual spectacle that holds visitors in awe. And to climb a dune before sunrise has become a religion to most who flock to this area.

**Deadvlei**, close to **Sossusvlei**, is a clay pan characterized by dark, dead camel thorn trees contrasted against the white pan

## **SOSSUSVLEI LODGE, SESRIEM, NAMIB DESERT**



floor. The pan was formed when the **Tsauchab River** flooded and the abundance of water allowed camel thorn trees to grow. However, the climate changed and the sand dunes encroached on the pan, blocking the river from reaching the area. The trees are estimated to be approximately 900 years old, though they have not decomposed due to the dry climate. **Deadvlei** is a paradise for photographers as the contrast between the pitch-black trees and bleached-white pans, and the rusty-red dunes and deep blue sky make for incredible images.

**Big Daddy** is the tallest dune in the **Sossusvlei** area. This magnificent dune is situated between **Sossusvlei** and **Deadvlei** and at 325 meters, it dwarfs the other dunes.

**Dune 45** is situated 45 kms from the entrance gate along a paved road. It's fascinating shape and accessibility makes it the most photographed dune in the world. Visitors are allowed to climb **Dune 45**, so be sure to visit early in the morning to watch the sunrise over the vlei from the top of the Dune. The Dune is 85 meters high and the climb is well worth the effort as from the top you will be spoilt with the incredible panoramic view of **Dune Valley**. In the morning and evening light the floor of the pan has been described as a "moonscape" and is truly a sight to behold.

**Sesriem Canyon** is located near the **Namib Naukluft Park Gate**. Here the **Tsauchab River** carved the conglomerate rock of the Canyon to a depth of 30 metres. The Canyon is about a kilometre long and was named after the six leather thongs used by settlers to lower a bucket into the canyon to get water. There is normally always water at the deepest part of the canyon. The normally dry **Tsauchab River** runs through the **Namib Naukluft Park** and ends at **Sossusvlei** about 50 kms from the **Atlantic Ocean**.

Apart from the ephemeral sustenance provided by the river, the living desert is primarily sustained by fog from the **Atlantic Ocean** and wind-blown detritus.

**Elim Dune** is located inside the Park and is only 5 kms from the **Namib Naukluft Park Gate**. It is a good place to visit before sunset. Take note that the Park entrance gate opens at sunrise and closes at sunset.

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## DAYS 5 & 6

## HOTEL ZUM KAISER, SWAKOPMUND

### *Standard Rooms - Bed & Breakfast*

Today you travel through the **Namib Desert** to **Swakopmund**, a 4 to 5 hour journey via the spectacular formations of **Gaub Pass**, **Grammadoelas** and **Kuiseb Canyon**. Close to **Walvis Bay** you will find **Vogelfederberg**, a lovely rocky niche with great views over the desert landscape. In **Walvis Bay** there is a lagoon where abundant waterbirds gather at certain times of the year to feed in the shallow waters. Continue to the charming oasis of **Swakopmund** on the **Atlantic Ocean** and check into **Hotel Zum Kaiser**. In **Swakopmund** you have the freedom to explore and eat at restaurants of your choice. Lunches and dinners are not included in your package and your guide will recommend some good options. Don't leave **Swakopmund** without a meal at **The Tug** -



<http://www.the-tug.com/>

### Accommodation

**Hotel Zum Kaiser** is well positioned in the picturesque **Swakopmund**, offering direct access to the beach and the town's vibrant street life, quaint architecture, shopping and fine dining. The rooms have a full en-suite bathroom, television, coffee / tea facilities, bar fridge, electronic safe and wireless internet. There is a restaurant with delectable cuisine and an idyllic **Roof Terrace** where you can sip sundowners whilst experiencing the spectacular sunsets over the **Atlantic Ocean**.

**Included : Bed & Breakfast, Half Day Living Dunes Experience**

<http://www.hotelzumkaiser.com/>

### Activities

After checking into your hotel, take a short stroll into town and have lunch in one of the many restaurants. Your guide will recommend some places. Then explore the markets, shops and streets with their quaint **German** architecture. You may want to book a scenic flight over the **Skeleton Coast** where shipwrecks on a rugged coastline can be seen from the air.

On the morning of **Day 6** you are booked on a **Half Day Living Dunes Experience** with **Charly's Desert Tours**. This is a memorable 4x4 adventure through the dunes outside **Swakopmund**. Your guide will search for life in this apparently barren landscape: Sidewinders, Palmato Geckoes, Namaqua Chameleons, Fitzsimmons Burrowing Skinks, Sand-diving Lizards, Scorpions, etc. He will also tell you about the plant-life, insects and minerals and you will experience a 'roaring' dune. The scenic drive through the dunes takes you from the life-rich eastern side through to the **Atlantic Ocean** on the west. Eco-aware, informative and fun. Plenty to see, experience and photograph.

After lunch your guide can take you on the **Welwitschia Trail** outside **Swakopmund** where some fascinating things can be seen including ancient welwitschia plants that can live for thousands of years, many different species of lichen that depend

on the mist from the sea, weird and wonderful desert plants and incredible moonscapes.

Other optional activities on offer in and around **Swakopmund** include marine cruises, desert tours, sand boarding, quad biking and scenic flights along the notorious **Skeleton Coast**.

### Swakopmund

**Swakopmund** is the capital of the **Erongo Region** with a population of about 34,000 inhabitants and is located amidst dunes and desert close to the mouth of the **Swakop River**. During the colonial period it was an important harbour, although the conditions were not really favourable: the coastal waters were far too shallow, a sheltered lagoon was missing and the surf was much too strong.

Today **Swakopmund** serves mainly as a holiday resort and is thus of touristic importance. Due to its mild climatic condition, especially during the high season of December and January, the town is an attraction to many tourists, especially from the inland areas. Some of the many touristic attractions include splendid buildings typical of the **German** colonial period, a wonderful town promenade, the aquarium and many more. The nearby surroundings are also of touristic importance. The coastal road which is flanked by dunes on the one side and the **Atlantic Ocean** on the other is very impressive. Excursions can be made 30 kms south to **Walvis Bay** as well as up north to the fishing paradise of **Henties Bay** or **Cape Cross**, one of the world's largest seal colonies.

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## DAY 7

### *Standard Rooms - Dinner, Bed & Breakfast*

More intriguing scenic sights today as you travel along gravel roads through the very scenic areas of **Damaraland** to **Twyfelfontein**, a journey of 4 to 5 hours. A huge, untamed and ruggedly beautiful region that offers the traveller a more adventurous challenge. The geography changes dramatically with endless sandy wastes that are able to sustain small, but wide-ranging, populations of desert-adapted elephant, black rhino, giraffe, ostrich and springbok. These animals have adapted their lifestyles to survive the harshness of the sun-blistered, almost waterless desert spaces. You will pass the **Brandberg Massif** where **Namibia's** highest mountain, **Konigstein**, stands at 2,574 metres above sea level and where a wealth of **Bushman Rock Art** can be found.

### Accommodation

**Twyfelfontein Country Lodge** has a wonderful location set amongst huge granite boulders and facing onto the surrounding plains. The rooms are decorated with natural materials according to the local **African** theme and have ensuite bathrooms and air conditioning. Lodge facilities include a restaurant and swimming pool.

**Included : Dinner, Bed & Breakfast, Guided Rock Engravings & Petroglyphs Tour**

<https://www.twyfelfontein.com.na/>

### Activities

After lunch you will have a guided tour of the **Rock Engravings** and **Twyfelfontein**. The multitude of engravings tell a story of an ancient past and lend a mystical quality to the surrounding landscapes. Your guide will take you on a choice of different tours to view the rock engravings. The early morning and late afternoon are the best time to see the engravings as the sunlight accentuates the beautiful brown, orange and ochre colours of the rocks but photographic results are generally better achieved when the sun is overhead.

You will also visit **The Petrified Forest** enroute to **Etosha** the next morning.

Other activities offered by **Twyfelfontein Country Lodge** include nature drives in search of the desert adapted elephant, hiking and guided walks.

### Twyfelfontein

**Twyfelfontein** is a beautiful mountainous area with a tranquil atmosphere. Shades of yellow, orange and ochre coloured rocks blend to create rich hues that are accentuated by the morning and afternoon sunlight. **Twyfelfontein** is known for its rock engravings, paintings and associated **Late Stone Age** material dating between 6,000 and 2,000 years ago. The site has one of the largest known concentrations of engravings in **Africa** executed on flat and upright slabs of rock, depicting a diversity of wildlife including rhino, elephant, giraffe, oryx, ostrich, flamingo, zebra and many more - and footprints. Over 5,000 individual figures have been recorded to date. They were probably made over a period of 2,000 years by local **San** hunter-gatherer people and represent an important aspect of **San** ritual and belief systems.

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## TWYFELFONTEIN COUNTRY LODGE, DAMARALAND



## DAYS 8 & 9

*Luxury Canvas Suites - Dinner, Bed & Breakfast*

## ETOSHA VILLAGE, BORDERING ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK

Your journey today (4 to 5 hours) takes you further through **Damaraland** and past the **Petrified Forest** where you have the option of stopping for a short visit. Here you will find 200 million year old fossils of very large trees that got washed downriver and were buried under the right climatic conditions for fossilisation to take place. You will also see **Welwitschias** here, ancient plants that can live for thousands of years.

Continue to **Etosha Village** which is located 2 kms before the **Anderson Gate** entrance into **Etosha National Park**.

### Accommodation

**Etosha Village** is a small private reserve adjacent to **Etosha National Park** and set within groves of indigenous trees. The accommodation units ensure maximum privacy and tranquillity, comprising canvas suites on raised timber

decks with a fully air-conditioned bedroom and a semi-open-air bathroom.

Facilities include a restaurant, swimming pool and bar area as well as a fully stocked utility and curio shop.

**Included : Dinner, Bed & Breakfast, Game Drives in Etosha National Park**

<http://www.etosha-village.com/>

### Activities

After checking into **Etosha Village** and enjoying a relaxed lunch, your guide will take you into **Etosha National Park** for an afternoon game drive. You will stop at **Okaukuejo Camp** which is located 17 kms from **Anderson Gate** and has a waterhole that attracts an abundance of animals coming to slake their thirst after a long dry day.

The next day you can spend a full day exploring **Etosha National Park** with your guide and benefit from game viewing through the **Landcruiser's** pop-up roof.

### Etosha National Park

**Etosha National Park** is located in northern **Namibia** and covers an area of nearly 22,912 sq kms. Within the eastern part of the park an approximately 5,000 sq km salt pan can be found which was formed about 2 million years ago when the **Kunene Delta** dried up and its riverbed shifted. The name **Etosha** is derived from **Oshiwambo** and means "big, white place".

Due to the fencing of the Park the animals living in the park depend on the water and food resources found within the fence. Thus the water is provided in water holes, some of natural origin some artificial. In the western part of the park, 5 natural and 27 artificial water holes are found, whereas 29 natural and 12 artificial water holes are found in the eastern part of the park. These form the livelihood for the animals and also serve tourists for game viewing.

**Etosha National Park** is a wonderful game reserve and quite different from most other **African** parks. The varied savanna habitats include massive salt pans, a variety of dry savanna grasslands and woodlands, dune veld and rocky areas all interspersed with many springs and waterholes. These habitats allow for a diversity of game and bird species. There are 114 species of mammals and 340 species of birds in the Park, but no buffalo, hippo, crocodile or monkeys. The sweet grassveld that occurs along the southern edge of **Etosha Pan** attracts a lot of grazers and is a good area for gameviewing.

The early mornings and late afternoons are the best times of day when the wildlife is more active and the angle of the sun's rays allows for better pictures and more scenic landscapes. Yet it is an experience at midday to see the shimmering figures of zebra, wildebeest, springbok, oryx and ostrich on the pans creating a surreal world of mirage effects.

All entrance gates open at sunrise and close at sunset.

## DAY 10

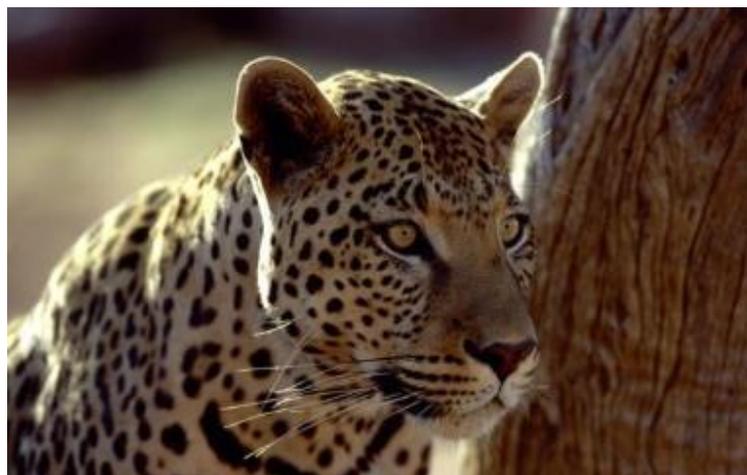
*Standard Rooms - Dinner, Bed & Breakfast*

Your route today takes you through part of the savanna regions of eastern **Namibia** before reaching **Okonjima Plains Camp** situated near the town of **Otjiwarongo**, a 3 hour journey. The tranquil atmosphere, scenic setting and unique game activities afford you a pleasant way to spend your last full day in **Namibia**.

### Accommodation

Situated 2 hours from **Windhoek**, the 55,000 acre **Okonjima Game Reserve** has a wonderful range of accommodation, but the highlight is the leopard safari. The **AfriCat Foundation** rehabilitates wild dogs, hyenas and leopards and there are opportunities to see these beautiful carnivores in their natural

## OKONJIMA PLAINS CAMP, OTJIWARONGO



environment.

Your **Standard Rooms** enjoy views across the grassy plains and have two double beds, ensuite bathrooms, roof fans, tea/coffee stations and a small veranda.

**Included : Dinner, Bed & Breakfast, Afternoon Leopard Activity**

<https://okonjima.com/accommodation/the-plains-camp/>

### **Activities**

After lunch you will enjoy an afternoon **Leopard Viewing** activity which takes you into the **ONR (Okonjima Nature Reserve)** and will allow you to spend more time with experienced guides and participate in the research data collection for a long-standing leopard project and newly introduced brown hyena programme. Some of the adult leopards are radio collared which enables the guides to track them with a specialised telemetry device contributing to frequent viewing, giving visitors an opportunity to observe these magnificent predators in their natural habitat and experience the fascinating behaviour and interactions between these two species while they compete for food. Although this significantly increases the chance of an excellent sighting, it cannot **ever** be guaranteed as they are wild free-living predators.

Other activities offered by **Okonjima** include a visit to the **Africat Foundation**, Bush walks and the **Bushman Trail**.

Details of these activities can be found on <https://okonjima.com/the-okonjima-experience/>

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## **DAY 11**

## **END OF SAFARI**

This morning you will travel back to **Windhoek** (3 hours) and your guide will then transfer you to **Hosea Kutako Airport** for your onward flight. Enroute you can visit the craft centre in **Okahandja**.

We wish you a safe and thrilling journey that will leave lasting memories and a desire to return.

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## **WHAT TO BRING**

Torch, malaria prophylactics, hat, sunscreen, binoculars, camera, batteries, chargers, sunglasses, warm clothing and jacket for game drives, walking shoes, neutral coloured clothing, swimsuit.

Electical Adaptors - see <https://www.power-plugs-sockets.com/za/south-africa/> for the types used in South Africa.

**Please Note : Malaria is low risk in Etosha National Park. Malaria in Southern Africa is transmitted by the female anopheles mosquito that is only active between dusk and dawn. It is advisable to wear long trousers and shirts and spray mosquito repellent on your hands and neck at dusk, before going to bed at night and when you awake early in the morning. There is no risk during the daytime.**